1 Welcome missive

This year’s 7710 seminar surveys computational models of human sentence comprehension. We examine a variety of problems that one faces in relating language structure and language use. How could anything like the grammars that linguists propose actually underly our ability to understand one another? Along the way we encounter a variety of approaches to linguistics including transformational grammar, LFG, GPSG, Government-Binding, TAG, CCG and Construction Grammar. Students can be expected to gain a deeper sense of how linguistics might contribute to a unified cognitive science.

2 Requirements

This seminar can be taken for either two or four credits. If you wish to audit (for 0 credits!) please formally enroll as an auditor. There are only four requirements. Class participation and reading-based essays are required of all attending participants, whereas a final project is only required for the four-credit option.

- **class participation** contribute your own ideas to the meeting topic. ask questions. offer critique. defend unpopular ideas.

- **reading-based essay** come to class with a short essay collecting your thoughts on the readings

- **final project** what implications do these ideas have for your research?

- **presentation** how is the final project going?

3 Practicalities

The course meets in Morrill Hall 102 each Wednesday during the Spring semester from 4:30-7PM. There is a course website at [http://courses.cit.cornell.edu/ling7710](http://courses.cit.cornell.edu/ling7710) Hale’s office hours are 2-4pm Monday afternoon.